

Message Text

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73

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

IO-10 OMB-01 /085 W

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FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2591

UNCLAS COLOMBO 1235

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: PINR, CE, CB

SUBJ: GSL PM CONFIRMS RECOGNITION OF GRUNK

REF: COLOMBO 1139

1. IN APRIL 17 STATEMENT PRIME MINISTER BANDARANAIKE CONFIRMED
GSL RECOGNITION OF SIHANOUK'S "ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL
UNION" (GRUNK) "A FEW DAYS AGO." (GSL'S MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS HAS NOT YET ANNOUNCED ESTABLISHMENT OF
DIPLOMATIC TIES). FULL STATEMENT AS REPORTED IN SRI LANKA
PRESS FOLLOWS:

"I HAVE JUST LEARNT THAT THE LIBERATION FORCES OF CAMBODIA
HAVE OVER-RUN THE CAPITAL CITY OF PHNOM PENH, MY GOVERNMENT
HAS BEEN FOLLOWING WITH KEEN INTEREST THE DEVELOPMENT IN
CAMBODIA SINCE PRINCE SIHANOUK HAD TO SEEK EXILE IN THE PEOPLES
REPUBLIC OF CHINA.

"WE IN SRI LANKA RECOGNISED THE GOVERNMENT OF PRINCE SIHANOUK
AS THE LEGAL GOVERNMENT OF CAMBODIA A FEW DAYS AGO. I
SINCERELY HOPE THAT THE FALL OF PHNOM PENH WILL RESULT IN THE
IMMEDIATE CESSATION OF CIVIL STRIFE THAT HAS RAVAGED CAMBODIA FOR
SO LONG AND WILL ENABLE THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF CAMBODIA
TO ADDRESS THEIR ENERGY IMMEDIATELY TO THE RECONSTRUCTION
OF THEIR COUNTRY AND TO LIVE IN PEACE AND HAPPINESS IN THE
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FUTURE. I SEND MY PERSONAL GOOD WISHES TO PRINCE SIHANOUK AND

THE PEOPLE OF CAMBODIA FOR A NEW EAR OF PEACEFUL RECONSTRUCTION."

2. IN SEPARATE DEVELOPMENT, SIHANOUK HAS CABLED ANURA BANDARA-
NAIKE THANKING HIM FOR HIS "GREAT SUPPORT" IN SECURING GRUNK
LEGAL RECOGNITION BY GSL AND FOR HOSPITALITY TO GRUNK "FOREIGN
MINISTER" YFRIN CHHAK ON RECENT SRI LANKA VISIT.
VAN HOLLEN

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NNN

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